

23

TROOP MOVEMENT, THANH HOA AREA

SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION SYSTEMS ARE DEPLOYED AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM. LOW-LEVEL DRONES OPERATE NORMALLY BETWEEN 1,000 AND 1,500 FEET, AND CAN OPERATE IN EITHER A DAY OR NIGHT CONFIGURATION. LOW OPERATIONAL HEIGHTS, HIGH PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOLUTION, AND VARIETY OF VIEWS ARE THE UNIQUE FEATURES OF LOW-LEVEL DRONE PHOTOGRAPHY.

THIS BOARD REVEALS AN APPARENT RAIL MOVEMENT OF NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS. A BATTALION-SIZE UNIT OF APPROXIMATELY 450 PERSONNEL ARE OBSERVED WALKING IN A LOOSE FORMATION FROM THE TRAIN TO A ROAD LEADING SOUTHWARD. THESE TROOPS HAVE PROBABLY JUST DISEMBARKED FROM THE TROOP TRAIN.

SECRET

25X1

23

(NOTE: No briefing board; this follows item 23 in sequence)

BYE-2849/69

THE OXCART (BLACK SHIELD) PROGRAM RECEIVED PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL IN AUGUST 1959. THE FIRST FLIGHT TEST WAS CONDUCTED IN APRIL 1962.

OPERATIONAL (EMERGENCY) CAPABILITY WAS REACHED IN NOVEMBER 1964 AND FULL OPERATIONAL READINESS WAS ACHIEVED IN NOVEMBER 1965. THE VEHICLE OF THIS PROGRAM WAS DEPLOYED TO OKINAWA IN MAY 67. DURING THE PERIOD MAY 1967 THROUGH MAY 1968, A TOTAL OF 29 OPERATIONAL MISSIONS WERE FLOWN. THESE INCLUDED 24 OVER NORTH VIETNAM, THREE OVER NORTH KOREA, AND TWO OVER CAMBODIA.

TOP SECRET

Handle via BYEMAN
Control System

SECRET



NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

M-5716/69
NPIC CONTROL NUMBER

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NATIONAL SUBSTANTIVE
BRIEFING AIDS
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RETURN TO:
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ROOM 4S-473G

17
IP FM 411 (1/67)

